

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A system according to claim 1, A parts procurement system comprising:~~

virtual production line preparation means for preparing a virtual production line in which objects manufactured thereon are virtually placed in sequence based on long-term production plan data that is more than one month covering variable production of the objects and fixed production plan data covering fixed production of the objects;

parts ordering means for determining parts and the number of the parts necessary for manufacturing the objects on the virtual production line prepared by the virtual production line preparation means, as well as calculating the parts ordering timing based on a production timing of the objects and parts delivery lead time; and further comprising

correction means for correcting the virtual production line prepared by the virtual production line preparation means according to actual production results of the objects, wherein the parts ordering means places a parts order after calculating the parts ordering timing based on the corrected virtual production line.

3. (Original) A system according to claim 2, wherein the correction means changes the virtual production line by correcting at least one parameter out of a production sequence change, a design change of the object, a production progress, and a parts procurement lead time.

4-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A system according to claim 9, A parts procurement system comprising a controller that:~~

_____ prepares a virtual production line in which objects manufactured thereon are virtually placed in sequence based on long-term production plan data that is more than one month covering variable production of the objects and fixed production plan data covering fixed production of the objects;

_____ determines parts and the number of the parts necessary for manufacturing the objects on the prepared virtual production line, and calculates the parts ordering timing based on a production timing of the objects and parts delivery lead time; and wherein the controller

_____ corrects the prepared virtual production line according to actual production results of the objects, and places a parts order after calculating the parts ordering timing based on the corrected virtual production line.

11. (Original) A system according to claim 10, wherein the controller changes the prepared virtual production line by correcting at least one parameter out of a production sequence change, a design change of the object, a production progress, and a parts procurement lead time.

12-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) ~~A method according to claim 17, A method of procuring parts comprising:~~

_____ preparing a virtual production line in which objects manufactured thereon are virtually placed in sequence based on long-term production plan data that is more than one month covering variable production of the objects and fixed production plan data covering fixed production of the objects;

_____ determining parts and the number of the parts necessary for manufacturing the objects on the prepared virtual production line;

calculating the parts ordering timing based on a production timing of the objects and parts delivery lead time; further comprising:

correcting the prepared virtual production line according to actual production results of the objects; and

placing a parts order after calculating the parts ordering timing based on the corrected virtual production line.

19. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein the prepared virtual production line is changed by correcting at least one parameter out of a production sequence change, a design change of the object, a production progress, and a parts procurement lead time.

20-24. (Canceled)